

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
21 July 2005 (21.07.2005)

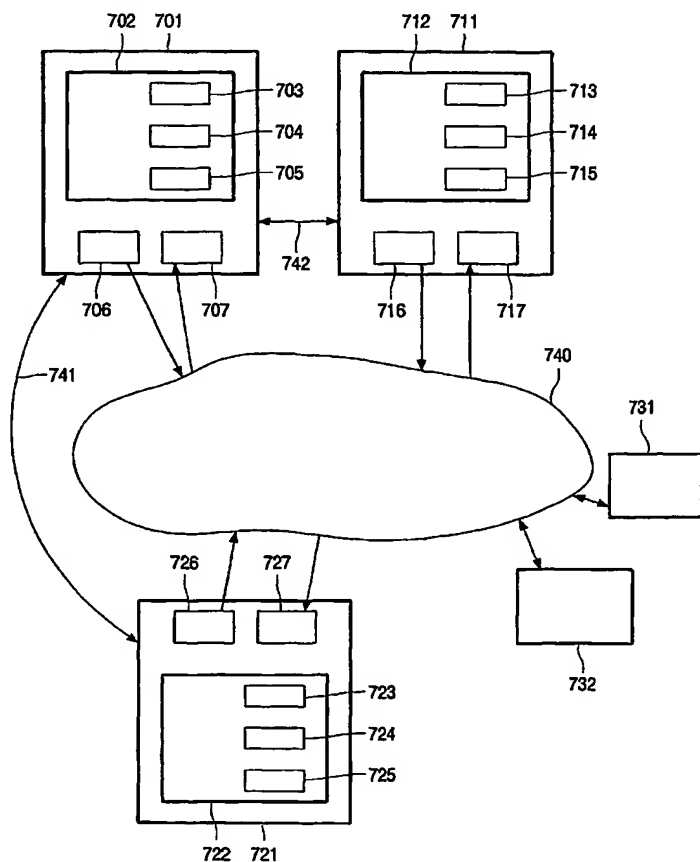
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/066735 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 1/00**, H04L 9/32
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/IB2004/052793
- (22) International Filing Date: 13 December 2004 (13.12.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 03104970.3 24 December 2003 (24.12.2003) EP
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.** [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **CONRADO, Claudine, V.** [BR/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **TUYLS, Pim, T.** [BE/BE]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **KAMPERMAN, Franciscus, L., A., J.** [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).
- (74) Agents: **GROENENDAAL, Antonius, W., M.** et al.; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PRESERVING PRIVACY WHILE USING AUTHORIZATION CERTIFICATES



(57) Abstract: The invention proposes a method to provide privacy for users or a user from a group of users with respect to authorizations they are granted, where such authorizations are expressed using digital authorization certificates, and with respect to domain certificates in case of groups of users. The idea is to conceal the user identity in the certificates, while the certificate itself remains in the clear. In this way, certificates can be widely and openly available, e.g. in a public network, without a random observer being able to link a user to an authorization or to identify a user within a domain. Privacy is also provided towards the certificate verifier by means of zero-knowledge protocols, which are carried out between the user and the verifier in order for the verifier to check a user's entitlement to a certificate. Privacy is further provided towards the certificate issuer as well, by means of a mechanism that allows the anonymous (buying or) issuing of certificates from the issuer.



TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS,*

JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Published:

- *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.